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WASHINGTON LETTER.

Washington, D. C.
April 1905.

I said last week that Mr. Hearst was liable to get busy in New York the same way he has in Chicago. I saw him the other day and when I asked him about the election in Chicago and the trend of events he said to me:

The election of Judge Dunne as Mayor of Chicago was the most important victory won at the polls since Lincoln was chosen President. It is not merely that the second city of the United States reclaims its streets from the grip of the men to whom a franchise simply represents an opportunity to tax the people and give as little as possible in return—the direct benefit of this redounds to Chicago only—but the effect of it will be felt all over the corporation-ridden country.

Just apply it here in New York.

The New York City railroads have the most valuable traffic franchises in the world, and make profits so great that the shares of the latest one constructed have more than doubled in value in Wall Street in the first six months of operation, yet there is not one of them that gives anything approaching the service the people have a right to expect.

Moreover, any little game of the directors of these street car companies is of more consequence than the convenience or safety of the people.

If one of them has a block of suburban property the line is extended in that direction, regardless of the right of more populous districts to improved service.

Up to this time all this has seemed natural to the people who are the sufferers by the system. Now, however, Chicago has blazed a trail to deliverance, and the very fact that it is possible for New York to follow that trail is going to work a vast improvement in New York railroads.

Nothing has conduced so greatly to graft and bribery in municipal and State affairs as the fact that franchises of enormous value for public utilities are to be obtained by favor of certain officials.

[This comes home to us in Fayetteville.—OBS.]

Give the streets back to the city and this element of corruption is at once eliminated.

What Chicago has done New York can do.

The question of railway rate regulation is once again actively before the public because of the Senate committee hearing. What the outcome will be is too problematical for me. But I feel sure it will neither be the proposition for Government ownership nor Senator Newland's plan for national incorporation, national taxation and national control, which is his idea of what the Democratic party ought to be.

The Democrats should get together quickly on some scheme, if they don't intend to let the Republicans steal their thunder and effect some sort of a compromise that will be more or less satisfactory to the railroad corporations. Railroad men say they are more than willing, in fact, are anxious to have rebates done away with; discriminations by way of excessive allowances to short terminal tracks that connect factories or warehouses with main lines wiped out; and the private car lines, with their exorbitant charges, eliminated forever from the railroad problem. All these are evils that have forced railroads to give up part of their legitimate earnings, by a system of mercantile brigandage and jiu-jitsu games, that even the shrewdest railroad managers cannot beat.

Shippers will tell the committee that they do not ask for a reduction in rates; that rates are low enough now, as the Interstate Commerce Commission has said a half dozen times in their reports; that all they want is a uniform rate for everybody, everywhere and at all times, and that the railroads would give them that now, if the Interstate Commission would only enforce the laws against the favored shippers who have the railways by the throats, instead of howling for a power to fix future rates—a power they do not need to eliminate present troubles, and one they would not know how to exercise if they possessed it. They admit that neither the producer nor the consumer would benefit a penny by any rate reduction, this side of bankruptcy for the carrier, but that the broker and middleman would get it all.

"Suppose you could ship hats from Danbury, Conn., to Louisville, for 3 cents less a hat, or shoes from Lynn to Omaha for 2 cents a pair less, or coffee for a tenth of a cent a pound less, from New York to Chicago," said one of them to me in the lobby of the New Willard Hotel here. "That would be a huge reduction in freight rates—over 25 per cent. And would the consumer benefit any by it? Not on your life."

As I'm not a puzzle editor, I gave it up.

Workingmen, labor unions, railroad employes are coming here to protest against rate reduction because they think it is going to hurt them. Perhaps it will. I can't tell just now. But the Democrats ought to have some one here to answer these questions and take a front seat on the band wagon.

CHARLES A. EDWARDS.

A CONTRAST.

What a contrast with our treatment of the Indian is that presented by the humane people of Canada.

Says an exchange:

"Last year the Canadian Indian tribes raised farm produce to the value of more than a million dollars, while the value of the products of hunting and fishing reached one million and a quarter. They earned wages to the amount of $1,500,000, and many of the members, it is stated, live in their own homes, built by themselves. That would unquestionably seem to carry adverse comment on our policy in dealing with the Indian."

And Greensboro, Too?

Greensboro Telegram.

The Telegram would like to suggest to the citizens of Greensboro and to the municipal authorities that clean streets are a good advertisement for a town, and that pieces of paper and rubbish scattered over the street and in front of public buildings are eyesores.

THE CONDITION OF A HAPPY HOME.

Durham Sun.

The habit of treating those who are nearest and dearest to us with discourtesy, is one that clouds the sunshine of too many homes. If you are young and looking for your prince, just test his home conduct. Do not be guided in your choice by what a young man is in the parlor; find out what he is in his mother's sitting room. Do not judge him by the way he can tip his hat, but by the way he treats the old, especially his parents. The home where mutual consideration rules is always a happy one, if it be the top flat of a cheap tenement or an adobe hut on the prairies. There should be a certain respect observed in the most intimate relationships. Wives have no more right to search their husband's pockets than they have to take the same liberty with an acquaintance. We have no more right to rob the baby's bank than to force the vault of the national bank. We may hurt the feelings of a society acquaintance and there is no great harm done, beyond an estrangement of two people who care but little for each other; but when we stab the fond mother's heart, that loved us with a love next in tenderness to heaven's, or wound the sensitive feelings of a brother or a sister, life is not long enough to extract the sting from memory. Love's opportunity will soon vanish forever, and out through the sunset of life, the ones we love dearest and best have flown away like birds to a summer land and our words of endearment are thrust back like voices that beat against a wall of rock.

THE RAILWAY QUESTION.

Says our Washington correspondent:

Apropos of the railway question, considerable interest attaches to the hearings which are to be given on the subject of railway legislation by the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce, of which Senator Elkins of West Virginia is chairman. The members of this committee are Senators Elkins, Cullom, Aldrich, Kean, Dolliver, Foraker, Clapp, Millard, Tillman, McLaurin, Carmack, Foster of Louisiana and Newlands. The first of the meetings called to deal with this subject under authority of a special Senate resolution, will occur next Monday, and it is expected that they will be held almost continuously for several months. Of the above membership, Senator Aldrich is still in Europe, Millard is in Nebraska and Tillman is still at his home in South Carolina, although it is hoped he will be able to attend, and Senator Millard will probably return to Washington before long.

It is generally expected that as a result of these hearings the committee will report some form of railway legislation to the Senate as soon as that body convenes, although those familiar with the attitude and affiliations of a majority of the committee expect that any measure which will be reported will prove either insufficient to accomplish the desired end or, and this is more likely, will be so drastic as to prove unconstitutional when submitted to the Supreme Court. It will remain therefore for the real friends of the President and of railway rate reform to amend the bill on the floor of the Senate until it assumes a form both practical and adequate. The next session of Congress will prove an unusually interesting one. Great interests of the public will be at stake, no one of more importance than this one of railway rate regulation, and the attitude and votes of every member of both houses will be, or should be, scrutinized closely by their constituents.

Those who oppose this view declare, however, that such a narrow view of the constitution itself, so close an adherence to the doctrine that the rights of the sovereign States must not be violated, will necessarily place the people at the mercy of those corporate interests, which by the lavish use of money can always corrupt a sufficient number of State legislatures to prevent the success of any proposed amendment of the constitution, however meritorious, which would even tend to curtail the liberties or the license of corporate wealth. The problem is too deep for extensive discussion in a news letter but the foregoing assertions may serve in a measure to indicate to the thinkers of the nation the gravity and complexity of the problem with which the next Congress will be called upon to deal.

Death of Mr. Lockett.

The Sumter News, in recording the death at that place of Mr. Uriah S. Lockett, father of the wife of our former townsman Mr. T. E. Maultsby, says:

The announcement of his passing away was not unexpected, as his long and painful illness of many months had prepared his hundreds of friends for the dread tidings.

But, while thus expected, the death of Mr. Lockett has cast a shadow of sorrow over the community wherein the greater portion of his long and useful life has been spent. He belonged to that class of men, honest and courageous, met with but seldom now.

For he was a man of unflinching courage, tried a thousand times upon battlefield and elsewhere, and never was he found wanting.

The word "honesty" was synonymous with his name. In this he was really an extremist, and it can be said in all truth that he never possessed a penny not his own. A part of his religion was to pay his just debts, love his fellow man and lead an upright life.

Nor lives there a man who can say that he ever failed therein.

Mr. Lockett was born in Warren county, Ga., August 2nd, 1832, and, therefore, was in his 73rd year. In 1859 he married Miss Antoinette Park, of Marion county. After the Civil War they removed to Americus in 1866, where they have resided very happily since.

Forget About Your Stomach.

If your digestion is bad the vital organs of your body are not fed and nourished as they should be. They grow weak and invite disease. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure digests what you eat, cures indigestion and all stomach troubles. You forget you have a stomach from the very day you begin taking it. This because it gets a rest—recuperates and gradually grows so strong and healthy that it troubles you no more. E L Babcock, Amherst, Minn., says: "I have taken a great many remedies for indigestion but have found nothing equal to Kodol Dyspepsia Cure." Kodol digests what you eat, cures Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Sour Stomach, Belching, Heartburn and all stomach troubles. Its preparation is the result of many years of research. Sold by all druggists.

THE BOND ISSUE.

Correspondence of the Observer

I would like to supplement Mr. Horne's article in Wednesday's OBSERVER.

Fayetteville has reached that point in the commercial way where to hesitate or halt means to be outstripped by our sister towns, and I believe we have enough grit and common sense to go forward and build up a large, progressive city right here in the centre of the Cape Fear section.

Greensboro, Raleigh, Charlotte, Wilson and Wilmington surround us, but we are so far from each of them that there is very little competition.

In fact, Fayetteville has a world of territory, and we have advantages inferior to no place on the globe, and the day is coming when this old place will be a live, up-to-date metropolis for this whole section.

When that day does come, we hope that many of the cherished memories will still be preserved and celebrated along with the newer and more pushing life. We have a comparatively small indebtedness, and the bond issue of $30,000 does not really increase our liability because the money is to be invested in assets that will be worth the outlay, and according to the electric light committee, who have made a thorough examination, the investment will yield the city a splendid return.

We have this plant on our hands and it has given us street lights free of cost. It therefore behooves us to care for and improve this plant, just as much so as we would any other piece of property. It would be the extreme of folly to allow the electric light property to depreciate when the expenditure of $15,000 is needed to further equip the plant and keep up a high standard of service.

Let us show to the world that what Fayetteville attempts shall be done well

If we do this, the outside world will find it out and people will be attracted to this, one of the finest places the sun ever shone upon.

If you have a piece of property, you regularly repair and paint it up. If you have a business you continually add to and improve your facilities to serve your customers. If you own a manufacturing plant and it is succeeding you naturally add more capacity because it can be operated without increase of expenses. Then why not do with the public property just as you would with your own, improve it, enlarge it and let it keep pace with the growing demands of Fayetteville.

We hope to own and operate the Water Works system and by placing the different city property in an able and competent commission's hands, it looks reasonable to calculate that there will be income enough to furnish street lights free, pay interest on the entire bonded debt of the city and lay up a small sinking fund.

We have the best water and water supply in the State and with $15,000 more in improvemetns we will have a most excellent light plant.

We have a mayor and board of aldermen who were ratified by an unanimous vote last evening. Every one of them has the welfare and progress of the city at heart. *These gentlemen recommend to us this bond issue as an important matter in our commercial progress. Then let us all go to the polls on election and vote for the progress of Fayetteville.*

Whether you are a prohibitionist, a high license advocate or a dispensary friend, it makes no difference. Put your shoulder to the wheel of progress and help it move a little faster. We will grow and grow rapidly, if every man of every faith will do his best to promote commercial enterprise and not try to tear down where another man builds, but lay your hand and heart to the work and add another stone to the work we are doing.

United—(prejudice and bickerings laid aside)—we will move to the front a satisfied, happy and prosperous people.

C. J. COOPER

Aldermen Items.

We are having some cool weather now a days which we are afraid will injure the fruit. The farmers are busy planting their cotton in this community.

There was a fish fry near Brunt last Saturday evening which was enjoyed by a number of young folks.

Misses Maggie Kelly and Ethel Cole of Hope Mills were in this community last Sunday.

Mr. Troy Hall has recently purchased a new red buggy. Look out girls for a ride.

Mr. T. P. Rackley and Miss Elma Jones went on a business trip to Fayetteville last Monday.

There will be preaching at Cape Fear church the fifth Sunday at 11 a. m. by the regular pastor, Rev. M. A. Stephens.

Messrs. N. H. Jones and J. S. Hall took a flying trip to Hope Mills Sunday afternoon.

We are sorry to report the continued illness of Miss Louia Marsh, of Parkton.

Mr. Albert Clark, of Sherwood, was a caller at Mr. Herman Jones's last Sunday evening.

Mr. Coward of Norfolk, Va., is visiting relatives and friends in this community.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter McQueen and little son have recently moved to Queensville near Alderman where they will make their future home.

Mr. Harry Hall and Miss Louia Clark ran an excursion to Marvin last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs Lloyd Hall visited relatives and friends near Edonia Sunday.

Mr. Harry Hall has purchased a graphophone which all the young folks enjoy very much.

Mr. T. P. Rackley has a fine field of of garden peas which are about to be shipped.

Rosebud.

A Daredevil Ride

often ends in a sad accident. To heal accidental injuries, use Bucklens Arnica Salve. "A deep wound in my foot, from an accident," writes Theodore Schuel, of Columbus, O, "caused me great pain. Physicians were helpless, but Bucklen's Arnica Salve quickly healed it." Soothes and heals burns like magic. 25c at at B E Sedberry's Sons, druggists.

Frightful Suffering Relieved

Suffering frightfully from the virulent poisons of undigested food, C G Grayson, of Lula, Miss, took Dr King's New Life Pills, "with the result," he writes, "that I was cured." All stomach and bowel disorders give way to their tonic, laxative properties. 25c at B E Sedberry's Sons drug store, guaranteed.

THE LATE CAPT. J A MCPHERSON.

MR. EDITOR:

The thin grey line of veterans who formed the remnant of Lee's Army forty years ago, is still the thin grey line of the Southern Legion of Honor. How thin it has grown with the passing years—how rapidly it is thinning now!

We think the roll of that heroic band is also kept in Heaven. Ever and anon, an asterisk is placed against a name and a courier is dispatched to summon him up higher

In the dawn of the early morning, when the notes of the birds awoke night's slumbers to the brightness of day, such a messenger came to Capt. John Alexander McPherson.

"The hand held aloft he dropped to his side,
He stood all attention as listening of yore,
No countersign was asked nor was any given,
As the courier strode forth with unfaltering intent,
A volunteer scout from the battlements of Heaven
With orders of love and justice he's sent."

The death of Captain McPherson marks the passing away of another of Lee's veterans—a gallant soldier of the Army of Northern Virginia. His comrades have paid him fitting tribute and we could add nothing to what they have said in this connection. Queen Victoria gave Wellington no higher praise than that "he was a good soldier." That is a noble heritage.

Captain McPherson looked the soldier, endowed as he was with all the essential qualities—with the quick movements, the bright eye, the erect form, the always alert appearance bespoke the man of military discipline and to see him on horseback, one might think that he had been in the cavalry.

He was a man, too, of extremely pleasant personality and of strong character. Always cordial and sincere in his manner and dealings, his friends were as numerous as his acquaintances. A keen observer, he was quick to detect, appreciate and praise worth and merit whenever anything worthy of praise existed. His cordial hospitality made it delightful to be a guest in his home. His kindly traits, generous heart and open hand endeared him not only to his wide circle of friends, but more especially to those who were his neighbors and to those who needed any help which he could give. Quietly as his alms were done, some beautiful deeds are credited to his account.

His loss will be keenly felt in his church, where he served for many years in the capacity first as Deacon, then as Ruling Elder.

His wise counsel, his exemplary life and his faithfulness in the discharge of his duties will long be an influence for good among the people of his church and community.

The large number of negroes at his funeral attested the esteem in which he was held by them. It was eminently fitting that Ben Jones should have been given the position of honor—faithful Ben, who followed his captain all his life, in war and in peace, and walked nearest to him to his grave.

The many beautiful flowers laid upon the newly-made mound, were tokens of genuine respect and heartfelt sorrow, and prominent among them were the battle flags of the Confederacy, under which he fought so well and so valiantly, and beneath which, with the murmuring pines for sentinels, he now lies, awaiting the Reveille!

SCOTCH LASSIE.

HOW OTHERS SEE US.

"Yankees" Pleased With Fayetteville.

Mr. Bion H Butler writes in the Southern Pines "Tourist" a long letter of Fayetteville. Below is part of it. The rest we will publish later:

As I have remarked before, when one fellow down here finds a new point of interest, the crowd follows. The other day an excursion was arranged to Fayetteville, and some seventy-five Yankees swooped down on the town, which is probably a bigger number than has ever entered the place at one time since Sherman came up this way with his terrible track of desolation. It was a great day for the visitors and for Fayetteville, too.

The Mayor and the big wigs welcomed the Yankee outfit, and did it right. There is no mistaking the Southern welcome. For instance, my wife and I were rambling about the quaint old little city, and we noticed on a big porch, back of a broad green lawn, in the shade of some of the greatest oak trees we ever saw, two women. We were taken with the charm of the home and at the same time thought it would be a convenient place to inquire about a point of interest in the vicinity which we sought. We went up the walk to the house. The information was cordially given, and when it was known that we were strangers a pressing invitation to go up into the house was given, and half a dozen suggestions made for our comfort and edification. On the streets gray-haired and dignified Chesterfields, whom we never saw before, lifted their hats courteously to the women of the party, while the town was thrown wide open for the entertainment of the bunch of Northern strangers.

Fayetteville is the quaintest, cheerliest, charming old place that I know of in all the country. One day it was ambitious, and with plenty of cause. It is at the head of navigation on the Cape Fear River, and before the days of railroads was the commercial town for all of the country west to the heart of Tennessee. Boats brought their cargoes up the river to Fayetteville—a United States port of entry, and from there wagon trains came and went in all directions. Excellent roads led to all parts of the western section of this State, South Carolina and Virginia, and it was no unusual thing to see hundreds of wagons filling the roads for two or three miles out from the city. Turpentine and resin, cotton and corn liquor, the famous little North Carolina hams, and other rural products came down to Fayetteville for shipment, and all manner of store goods came up.

Cheated Death

Kidney trouble often ends fatally, but by choosing the right medicine, E H Wolfe, of Bear Grove, Iowa, cheated death. He says: "Two years ago I had Kidney Trouble, which caused me great pain, suffering and anxiety, but I took Electric Bitters, which effected a complete cure. I have also found them of great benefit in general debility and nerve trouble, and keep them constantly on hand, since, as I find they have no equal." B E Sedberry's Son, druggists, guarantees them at 50c.

SPOUT SPRINGS ITEMS.

The farmers in this section are about done planting corn. Very few are talking of planting cotton. We keep in hope that cotton will be a little better price this year than it was last for those that will plant.

Rev T. Smith filled his regular appointment at Cypress church Sunday, and also preached at Jonesville that night. We learn that he will be will be with us twice a month for the next year.

Mrs. Sallie McNeill is very sick now, but it is hoped she will soon recover.

Mrs W. H. Smith, who has been sick for some time is improving. We hope she will soon get over her long and severe illness.

Mr. John A. Darroch and Mr. Murph McKay were visiting friends and kinfolks at Johnsonville Saturday night. Mr. McKay has bought a fine young mule. We guess he will be hauling the girls around now.

Miss H. S. Darroch is spending a while with her sister at Jonesville.

Messrs. J. A. Spring and L. G. McKay were visiting at Mr. W. J. Smith's last Sunday afternoon.

White Rose.

Fish Hill Items.

The farmers in this section are very busy planting cotton and corn. We hope they will get a good price for it.

We are glad to know the fruit is not all killed.

Mr. Hinton Culbreth and Miss Lela McLaurin were married Sunday and left for their future home at Lumber Bridge. We wish them much happiness.

Miss Mary Geddie, who has been on the sick list for sometime, is improving, we are glad to learn.

We are having a good Sunday School at Lebanon with Mr. J. C. Beard as superintendent. A large crowd attended Sunday.

Rev. Mr. Joyner filled his regular appointment at Salem Sunday.

Best wishes to the OBSERVER.

BLUE BELL.

April 26, 1905.

THE CONVENTION LAST NIGHT,

Action of Primaries Ratified.

From Thursday's Daily.

Considering the rival attractions, there was a good attendance at the meeting in the court-house last night, at eight o'clock, to ratify the nominees for the various municipal offices made by the Democratic primary last Friday, the 21st. The ticket (heretofore published in the Observer) was ratified as a whole by acclamation, and several interesting and instructive talks were made by some of the candidates and citizens.

In the absence of Chairman Strange, of the Executive Committee, Mr. A. S. Wightman, a member, called the meeting to order, asking Mr. J. W. Atkinson to preside. Major E. J. Hale was elected chairman, and R. H. Dye secretary.

Reports were then read and received as to the result of the primary in each of the seven wards, after which it was moved and carried that the ticket be ratified as a whole, which was done, by acclamation.

Mayor McMillan, being called for, thanked his friends in a few well-chosen words for the support given him, promising to do all he could for the up-building of Fayetteville. His countenance radiated with feelings of joy and gratitude.

Mr. J D McNeill was then called for, and spoke of the finances of the city and the resultant good of the Board of Public Works.

The new alderman-elect from the 7th, Mr. R G. Jones, expressed his pleasure at his nomination and went on record in favor of the bond issue. Mr. C. J. Cooper also spoke on the advantage the city would derive by issuing the bonds. Alderman Alexander told of the light plant, the good to be derived by the proposed bonds and the election of the Board of Public Works.

Mr. J. W. Atkinson, the last speaker, said Friday's was not altogether a prohibition fight but a Democratic election; that we had put out a good strong ticket and that the man that failed to realize this had a very low forehead.

Cable Rates.

The Postal Telegraph now has new cables between Guam and a cable station in the Pacific Ocean and Yap Island which are about six hundred miles south west of Guam and containing addition of about twelve hundred miles to Menado on Cebris where they connect with other cables to Sumatra and other points in the Dutch East Indies and are now open to the public at the following rates beyond San Francisco, to which this and rate for Pacific cables must be added: To Yap, one dollar and five cents per word; to Java, one dollar and eight cents per word; to Sumatra and other Dutch East India points, one dollar and eighteen cents per word.

Proper Treatment of Pneumonia.

Pneumonia is too dangerous a disease for anyone to attempt to doctor himself although he may have the proper remedies at hand. It should be borne in mind, however, that pneumonia always results from a cold or from an attack of the grip, and that by giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy the threatened attack of pneumonia may be warded off. This remedy is also used by physicians in the treatment of pneumonia with the best results. Dr W J Smith, of Sanders, Ala, who is also a druggist, says of it: "I have been selling Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and prescribing it in my practice for the past six years. I use it in cases of pneumonia and have always gotten the best results." Sold by All Druggists.

Mothers! Mothers! Mothers!

How many children are at this season feverish and constipated, with bad stomach and headache. Mother Gray's sweet Powders for Children will always cure. If worms are present they will certainly remove them. At all druggists 25c. Sample mailed FREE. Address, Allen S Olmsted, LeRoy, N Y.

Cabin Branch Banner Presentation.

The presentation of the Democratic banner to the Democrats of Cabin Branch precinct in Quewhiffle township took place Thursday, and parties present give glowing accounts of the occasion. There was a steady downpour of rain from early morning until about 2½ o'clock, and the exercises took place in the school house.

County Chairman H. L. Cook presided and introduced each speaker with appropriate and pleasant words which made the speaker and audience feel acquainted and added much to the pleasure of the exercises.

Mr. Cook opened in a short speech explaining the purpose of the banner and cautioned the Democrats to be on their mettle, as every precinct in the county would be after it next year; that their record could not be surpassed, as their vote was unanimous, but they might lose by failing to be unanimous hereafter.

Capt. J. H. Currie, representing Ray's precinct, which made the next best increase in Democratic votes, then presented the banner in eloquent and felicitous words. It was accepted modestly by Precinct Chairman Sam. J. Cameron in a neat, if short, speech, as follows:

"Gentlemen of the Committee:

"We accept this beautiful banner which you have presented to us in words so graceful and complimentary. We appreciate your sentiments and assure you that we shall continue to be loyal to the Democracy. We consider this a very great honor conferred upon our precinct and township, and will always feel grateful to your committee and the good Democrats you represent. We shall try to hold it by continuing to cast a unanimous vote for the nominees and principles of Democracy.

"In behalf of the citizens of Cabin Branch I extend hearty thanks, and assure you of our lasting gratitude. I welcome you to our midst."

Mr. Cook then called upon Maj. J. W. McLauchlin, of Raeford; Messrs W. M. Walker, A. S. Hall, Q. K. Nimocks, Archie McGill, Mr. Pool and others. All made short, but entertaining, speeches, in which wit and wisdom abounded.

After speaking the clouds broke, the sun came out and the ladies spread a bountiful and elegant feast of good things on tables in the grove, the Rev. Mr. McLaurin, of Raeford, asked a blessing, and the crowd pitched in and enjoyed the splendid repast.

Thus ended a notable day for the Democracy, and one which will long be remembered by the highland Scotch and others who participated.

Lights for All.

Correspondence of the Observer.

MR. EDITOR:

The question of voting bonds to enlarge the electric light plant and fund the floating debt presents in its last analysis a very simple business proposition to the voters of our city, and as to lights, it is this. Having already established an electric light plant under municipal ownership, in obedience to public demand, shall the extra funds needed for its enlargement be provided, thereby enabling the light plant to meet the increasing demands of a growing city for more lights, or shall they not?

The light committee have made it plain that the proposed enlargement will greatly enhance the value of the plant, and enable the city to operate it upon a much more economical and profitable basis; and that a failure to provide for its enlargement will seriously embarrass its further successful operation, for reasons fully discussed in the published statement of the light committee.

Many of our people want electric lights, but cannot get them, because the present plant cannot supply them. It has not the capacity to do so. Under public ownership *all* the people, rather than a favored few, should be able to get electric lights if they want them. But how shall they get them unless the capacity of the plant is enlarged to supply them? And how shall the enlargement be made without the necessary funds? And how shall the necessary funds be provided, unless the people vote them?

So then it is up to the people, by whose will and decree the present light plant was established, to stand by its own enterprise, and give it that strong support which its public importance and growing patronage demands, and which the light committee have recommended. It is only fair to give municipal ownership of the light plant a "square deal." If it has done so well as it has under adverse conditions, it must do even better under more favorable circumstances.

In the writer's opinion, no mistake will be made in voting for the bonds; and, on the contrary, quite a serious mistake will be made in voting against them.

"Electric lights for everybody that wants them." If that's your platform vote "issue."

The proposition involved as to the debt is equally simple. This: Shall the city continue to pay six per cent. interest on its floating debt, contracted to pay its necessary expenses, when it can reduce the rate to 4 or 5 per cent. by selling its bonds?

Refusing to vote the bonds will not be refusing to make the debt? That has already been contracted.

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